

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1 to 27, 29 and 31 to 33 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Please amend Claims 28 and 30 as follows:

1 to 27. (Cancelled).

28. (Currently Amended) A coordinate input apparatus according to claim 27, for calculating a coordinate corresponding to a position of a light spot with which an input screen is irradiated, comprising:

a sensor array configured in such a manner that a plurality of optical/electrical conversion elements is arranged:

coordinate computing means for successively calculating coordinate data of the light spot from the output of the sensor array; and

determining means for determining a readout-start portion of the sensor array from the coordinate data whose ordinal number precedes a predetermined ordinal number, at the time of calculating the coordinate data of the predetermined ordinal number,

wherein the coordinate computing means calculates the coordinate data of the ordinal number based on the output from the readout-start portion determined by the determining means,

and wherein the determining means further predicts order of readout of the sensor array predicted from the coordinate data whose ordinal number precedes the predetermined ordinal number, and if there is no output from the readout-start portion determined by the determining means, readout is performed in accordance with the order.

29. (Cancelled).

30. (Currently Amended) A coordinate inputting method according to claim 29, of applying irradiation light to a predetermined position on an image input screen by operation of a designation device to generate a light spot, and obtaining coordinate data of the light spot by optical/electrical conversion of a sensor array, comprising steps of:

determining a readout-start portion of the sensor array from the coordinate data whose ordinal number equals a number immediately before a predetermined ordinal number, at the time of calculating coordinate data of the predetermined ordinal number, and

obtaining an output partially from a predetermined number of optical/electrical conversion elements corresponding to the readout portion determined in the sensor array, calculating the coordinate data of the predetermined ordinal number, and generating a coordinate output signal corresponding to a predetermined position of the coordinate input screen.

wherein in the determination, order of readout of the sensor array predicted from the coordinate data whose ordinal number precedes the predetermined ordinal number is further predicted, and if there is no output from the readout-start portion determined by the determining means, readout is performed in accordance with the order.

31 to 33. (Cancelled)